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Yoshiyuki Namizuka

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08/28/2009

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.  
1940 DUKE STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

DICKERSON, CHAD S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/28/2009

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com  
oblonpat@oblon.com  
jgardner@oblon.com

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 8/4/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In the remarks filed, the Applicant stated that the Kolls '704 reference did not disclose, explicitly or inherently, that the same system 500 can be connected to each of the printer (646) and the PC (630). The Examiner respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

In the reference of Kolls '704, paragraph [0080] specifically states that *"the public access electronic commerce (hereinafter referred to as PAEC) terminal can effectuate control of a vending machine as required"....* As disclosed in paragraph [0076], vending machines can include copiers, phones, facsimile machines, printers, laptop/palmtop computers and PCs. By these two statements, it is clear that the PAEC terminal is used to effectuate control over the plurality of the different type of vending devices. In paragraph [0082], the system discloses *"a typical business center that can be comprised of a plurality of vending equipment"*. The system also goes on to state that *"a control system, and operational method which can interface and control a plurality of different types of vending equipment is also required"*. The PAEC terminal is used to be that mechanism that serves as a control system and performs an operational method that can interface and control a plurality of different types of vending equipment. Since the PAEC terminal is used to control and operate the different types of vending equipment, it is clear that the PAEC terminal can be used to interface and control PC (630) and then be interfaced with and control the printer (646). Since it is the nature of

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the PAEC terminal to be interfaced with a plurality of different vending equipment in the system and control each piece of vending equipment accordingly, the feature of controlling a printer through the PAEC terminal and then using the terminal to control a PC that may have control over the same printer can be performed.

When looking at figures 1C and 1D, the figures show different ways a PAEC terminal can be integrated into the systems in order to control different elements within the system. If the PAEC can be connected in 1C directly to a printer and that same PAEC can then be connected to a PC that controls a printer, it is clear that the PAEC terminal can be integrated with either device in order to control the printing process in the system. It is also clear that with the integration of the PAEC terminal with other vending devices, the PAEC terminal has to be connected to a machine in order to perform some type of control over that device. In order to control the PC, the PAEC terminal has to be connected to the CPU or keyboard to effectuate some type of control over the PC to perform other functions. In addition, in order to control the printer, the PAEC terminal has to be connected to the printer, either directly or indirectly through a PC, for controlling the printing functions of the printer. Therefore, with the above reasoning, the Examiner maintains the rejection in view of the previously applied references and Kolls.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAD DICKERSON whose telephone number is

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(571)270-1351. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Haskins can be reached on (571) 272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CHAD DICKERSON  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2625

/Twyler L. Haskins/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625